of Crude Degummed Soyabean Oil was received in September, 1992 as gift from US AID-PL-480 Title III agreement between Governments of USA and India in May, 1992. There is no proposal under consideration of Government for import of further quantity of Soyabean Oil for the US fiscal year 1993 under the aforesaid agreement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Considering the present demand of edible oil for the country to the tune of over 65 lakh MTs a year, the quantity of oil received as gift is quite negligible to have any adverse effect on the interests of growers of oilseeds.

(d) The Government has been keen to safeguard the interests of oilseed growers by implementing a number of schemes to increase yield and area of oilseeds production. The support prices of major edible oilseeds for Rabi Crop 1992-93 has been increased by 13% to 19.4%.

**Amendments to consumer protection Act**

3267. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had earlier assured that some major amendments to the Consumer Protection Act based on the recommendations of a working group constituted by the Central Consumer Protection Council were underway;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(c) by when Government propose to amend the act as per the recommendations of the council ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement is annexed. (See below).

(c) Preparatory action for introduction of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill in the current Session of the Parliament is in final stages.

**Statement**

(b) A High Power Working Group was constituted to suggest suitable recommendations to the Government for making the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and MRTP Act, 1969 more effective. The recommendations of the Working Group are :—

(i) to enlarge the definition of "consumer" and "complaints" to cover those who purchase goods for self-employment and cases arising out of likely loss/injury to consumers;

(ii) to bring services in hospitals run by Government and local bodies and mandatory services provided by local bodies within the purview of the Act;

(iii) to allow filing of class action complaints on behalf of consumers;

(iv) to give additional powers to three tier redressal agencies such as power to issue cease and desist order, recall of defective and unsafe goods etc;

(v) to increase the monetary jurisdiction of State Commissions and District Forums;

(vi) to dispense with the procedure of seeking prior approval of Central Government in setting up the State Commission and District Forums;

(vii) to provide a separate Chapter on Rights of Consumers in the Act;

(viii) to restrict the role of lawyers in the three tier redressal agencies;

(ix) to bring the decisions of the National Commission/State Commissions/ District Forums within Article 323 B of the Constitution so as to exclude the writ jurisdiction of High Court; and

(x) to streamline the procedure for appointing the non-official members of the three tier redressal machinery etc.

**Irregularities in the Audit Report of Super Bazar**

3268. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Audit Report for the year 1990-91 in respect of the Co-operative Stores "Super Bazar" New Delhi has since been submitted;

(b) whether some irregularities and Shortcomings have been pointed out by the Auditors for the year 1990-91 if so, action taken thereon and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether audit has been completed and Auditor's report received for the year 1991-92 and if so, the details thereof and if not, what are reasons for such a long delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Super Bazar has reported that Auditors have pointed out certain irregularities and shortcomings in the report for the year 1990-91, which mainly concerns with adjustment of accounts with various parties, recovery of handloom cloth rebate, payment of property tax, maintenance of fixed assets registers etc. Audit report and annual accounts for the year 1990-91 were placed before the Managing Committee of Super Bazar and were approved in its 181st meeting held on 22-1-92. Appropriate action has already been taken by the Super Bazar to remove the shortcomings mentioned by Auditors. The report was laid on the table of Rajya Sabha on 20-8-92.

(c) The Audit Report for the year 1991-92 has been received by Super Bazar on 25-2-93. Compliance on the audit observations/objections have been completed by Super Bazar. Annual General Meeting of the smaller Representative General body is being convened shortly to formally approve the Annual Report and accounts for the year 1991-92 alongwith the report of compliance.